2007–2008

# Saskatchewan

## Provincial Budget

*Performance Plan*

*Saskatchewan Culture, Youth and Recreation*

# Minister's Message

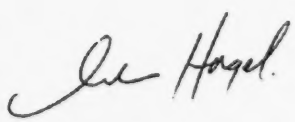
Culture, Youth and Recreation oversees many of the programs which make Saskatchewan a great place to work, live and raise a family. By working collaboratively with key partners, the Department continues to enhance the province's cultural, artistic, heritage, sport and recreational opportunities. These efforts support government priorities and contribute to Saskatchewan's growing economy.

The Department realizes that healthy and vibrant communities have cultural and recreational amenities that attract youth and businesses and add to the vitality and sustainability of these communities. Creativity, innovation and our high quality of life are key components in attracting people to our province while making Saskatchewan the best place to stay and build a better future.

Through strategic investments in the arts sector, the music industry, as well as the ongoing efforts resulting from the film employment tax credit, and protection of our province's heritage property, we are contributing to the value of Saskatchewan's unique advantage. Saskatchewan's attractive quality of life is supported by the depth and diversity of our sport, cultural and recreation activities.

A series of major music events in 2007 will leverage opportunities and provide a growing focus on the role of culture and recreation in community strength and attractiveness. Culture and recreation are important inputs for cultural tourism, our economy and the quality of life in Saskatchewan. The Department will focus heavily on increasing the understanding of why Saskatchewan is the place to be – the place to have fun – the place where you can build a future.

As Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation, it is my pleasure to present the Department's 2007-08 Performance Plan. We are committed to completing the key actions presented in this Plan and will report on our progress in our 2007-08 Annual Report in July 2008.



Glenn Hagel
Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation

# Who We Are

The mandate of the Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation is to support and celebrate Saskatchewan as a great place to live and work. The Department is dedicated to ensuring that Saskatchewan people, especially our young people, reach their fullest potential. By working collaboratively with diverse groups and communities, the Department enhances the Province's cultural, artistic, recreational and social life. It also recognizes accomplishment and promotes excellence in the arts, culture, heritage and sport. Culture, Youth and Recreation has 87.5 full-time equivalent positions. The Department's head office is in Regina with satellite offices in Melfort and La Ronge.

Key to the promotion of Saskatchewan as a great place to live, work and raise a family is our excellent quality of life. Quality of life is an essential element in attracting and retaining young people and is vital to the continued success of the province, both socially and economically.

Saskatchewan's growing economy and changing labour market emphasizes the importance of the Department's mandate in engaging the province's youth in meaningful ways. Through strategic leadership, the Department has been able to help address the varied issues facing Saskatchewan youth, including providing guidance on recruitment and retention of youth. The Department also creates initiatives that strengthen the ability of youth and organizations to build relationships.

The Department is engaging youth in decision-making through initiatives such as the *Provincial Youth Advisory Committee* and *Leaders of Tomorrow.* The *Saskatchewan Youth Project Awards* further enhances opportunities for Saskatchewan youth to develop and deliver their skills at the community level. These initiatives contribute to community vitality and address the retention and attraction of youth within the scope of their capabilities. Youth are also able to share their stories and experiences with their peers through saskatchewan.ca, a new web portal, designed specifically to appeal to young people who are relying more and more on websites as their vehicle of choice for communication.

The Province values the important role that communities, non-profit organizations and the voluntary sector play in the delivery of community programs and services. The Department administers the legislative and regulatory framework for the management and distribution of funds for community activities distributed through the *Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund* for Sport, Culture and Recreation and the *Community Initiatives Fund.* More than 12,000 community organizations help develop and deliver a comprehensive array of sport, culture and recreation programming in communities across the province. The Department works closely with provincial sport, culture and recreation organizations to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of the lottery-funded systems.

By working in a spirit of collaboration with diverse groups and communities, the Department enhances the province's cultural, artistic, recreational and social life. These strategic efforts preserve our collective history, foster our unique identity and contribute greatly to the overall quality of life in Saskatchewan.

The Department provides research, evaluation, public policy development and stewardship in collaboration with its key partners in the culture and heritage, sport and physical activity and recreation sectors. Culture, Youth and Recreation participates in and supports national policy development through federal/provincial/territorial initiatives in sport, culture and recreation. The Department works closely with key partners in the culture and heritage sectors to preserve our history and promote Saskatchewan's significant cultural tourism destination points. Initiatives, such as the *Film Employment Tax Credit*, drive growth and innovation in new economic sectors.

In addition to championing the arts, culture, heritage and sport, the Department promotes Saskatchewan as an important centre of creativity and innovation. The Department has a key role to play in increasing awareness of Saskatchewan's great quality of life and the advantages the province has that make it a vibrant and attractive place to call home.

# Plan at a Glance

The 2007-08 Plan continues the strategic focus from Culture, Youth and Recreation's (CYR's) 2006-07 Plan and will continue to evolve as the strategic planning, performance management and public reporting processes mature and stakeholder feedback is incorporated. The Plan has been updated to better describe CYR's goals and objectives, but does not represent a significant change in the Department's strategic direction. Key actions have been developed for the 2007-08 fiscal year which will help ensure our objectives are met. Our stated performance measures have also been further developed and will be further defined over the next year. In addition, trendline information has been added to the performance measures where data exists to support it. The trend information is intended to provide additional context and historical information for the reader.

CYR will report on actual compared to planned progress at year-end, in our 2007-08 Annual Report to be released in July 2008.

## *OUR VISION*

**All Saskatchewan people have full and vibrant lives where they are socially and culturally engaged, physically active and proud of their identity. Saskatchewan is known as a place of great opportunity for young people. All youth in Saskatchewan fully participate in the social, cultural and economic life of the province.**

## *GOAL 1*

### *Saskatchewan is an attractive place to live and build a future*

***OBJECTIVE 1** – Saskatchewan people participate in sport, culture and recreation activities*

***Performance Measures***

- **Percentage of children and youth participating in sport, recreational and cultural activities**
- **Number of professional artists in Saskatchewan**

***OBJECTIVE 2** – Sport, culture and recreation contribute to the growth of the Saskatchewan economy*

***Performance Measures***

- **Film production volumes**
- **Estimated film industry employment**

***OBJECTIVE 3** – Heritage resources are identified, interpreted, protected and managed for the benefit of the people of Saskatchewan*

***Performance Measure***

- **The number of heritage properties in Saskatchewan**
  - ~ **Archeological sites**
  - ~ **Municipal designated properties**
  - ~ **Provincial designated properties**

## *GOAL 2*

### *Saskatchewan people have the habits and skills needed for life success*

***OBJECTIVE 1** – Youth have early leadership and work experience opportunities*

***Performance Measure***

- **Percentage of Saskatchewan Youth Project Awards (SYPA) youth participants that agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: "Our SYPA funded project created new opportunities for youth to work with organizations in our community"**

**OBJECTIVE 2** – *First Nations and Métis children and youth participate in sport, cultural and recreational activities*

*Performance Measure*

- Percentage of Aboriginal children and youth participating in sport, recreational and cultural activities

**OBJECTIVE 3** – *Saskatchewan people become more physically active*

*Performance Measures*

- Percentage of Saskatchewan residents who are physically active
- Percentage of Saskatchewan youth (age 12 to 19) who are physically active

**OBJECTIVE 4** – *Saskatchewan people are committed to their communities and are active volunteers and participants*

*Performance Measure*

- Percentage of Saskatchewan residents who volunteer

## GOAL 3

*Programs and infrastructure are sustainable, accountable and responsive to public needs*

**OBJECTIVE 1** – *Sport, cultural and recreational physical infrastructure is sustainable*

*Performance Measure*

- Percentage of Saskatchewan population served by the Building Communities Program

**OBJECTIVE 2** – *Voluntary sector organizations have the capacity to make valuable contributions to local communities and the Province*

*Performance Measure*

- Percentage of non-profit and voluntary organizations identifying challenges in five key areas

# 2007-08 Financial Overview

In 2007-08, Department spending in the areas of culture, youth, recreation and heritage will be $90.2 million. Approximately 84 per cent of the Department's budget is granted to third parties. The Department has a total of 87.5 Full-Time Equivalent positions as a staff complement.

The breakdown of Department spending is shown below:

| *2007-08 ESTIMATES* | *(in thousands of dollars)* |
|---|---|
| Central Management and Services | $ 7,751 |
| Culture | 17,115 |
| Recreation | 1,141 |
| Policy and Youth | 1,102 |
| Community Initiatives Fund | 6,125 |
| Building Communities | 40,000 |
| Heritage | 10,942 |
| Saskatchewan Communications Network | 5,997 |
| Total Appropriation | $ 90,173 |
| Capital Acquisitions | 0 |
| Amortization | 20 |
| Total Expense | $ 90,193 |
| Revenues | |
| Licences and Permits | $ 5,002 |
| Transfers from Other Governments | 765 |
| Total Revenues | $ 5,767 |
| FTE Staff Complement | 87.5 |

The following significant changes in funding have occurred since last fiscal year:

- Additional funding of $40 million is provided for the Building Communities Program for new construction, sustainable development and rehabilitation of community-created recreational and cultural infrastructure.
- Additional funding in the amount of $750 thousand in response to the recommendations of the Minister's Advisory Committee on Status of the Artist.
- Since 2004-05, the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation has been supported by a grant from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund, beginning in 2007-08 grant funding of $275 thousand will be provided through the Department.

# Trends and Issues

CYR's role is to ensure that Saskatchewan is a place where people choose to live and work and youth are engaged in meaningful ways. We do this primarily through youth leadership, sport, cultural and recreational policies and programs. We consider related research in our planning. This research includes demographic, economic, sport, physical activity, cultural and recreational trends. A key priority of CYR is to ensure that all citizens of the province participate in well-designed and effectively delivered sport, culture and recreation activities and that our youth have an increasing share in the province's many economic and civic opportunities. In late 2006, the Department launched a comprehensive multi-media campaign to promote quality of life, career opportunities and other natural advantages of Saskatchewan to young people and young families. The following, which illustrate the scope of issues surrounding sport, culture, recreation and youth, are directly tied to the objectives and actions of CYR's performance plan.

### *HEALTHY LIVING*

Saskatchewan residents, consistent with other parts of the country, are not physically active enough to achieve health benefits. According to the Statistics Canada *Canadian Community Health Survey,* in 2003, 50.0 per cent of Saskatchewan residents were physically active, up from the 2000 rate of 45.6 per cent. Still, the chronic disease outcomes of inactivity remain at alarming rates. In 2003, 60 per cent of Saskatchewan adults were overweight or obese.

Saskatchewan *in motion* was launched in spring 2003 as a province-wide initiative to increase physical activity in the province. Recognizing that physical inactivity remains a serious health issue, Saskatchewan will continue to invest in the *in motion* movement through the *Community Initiatives Fund.*

### *YOUTH OUT-MIGRATION AND THE LABOUR MARKET*

Saskatchewan faces skill shortages driven by both an aging population and a growing number of youth that are not fully engaged in the province's labour market.

Further compounding this challenge is the race to recruit and retain youth in the province. In a 2004 survey of Saskatchewan youth (CYR Youth quality of Life Survey, 2004), it was clearly shown that a number of factors are considered when youth are deciding where to live. Top concerns were job quality and number of jobs, cost of living and quality of life factors like proximity to family and health care. Demographic trends show that the need to find new ideas and energy for the economic, social and cultural life of the province will increase.

To meet the challenges of the changing labour market and demographic profile of Saskatchewan, CYR works to make Saskatchewan an attractive place to live. We do this by engaging youth in decision-making and problem solving and helping organizations include youth in meaningful roles. In addition, CYR helps build the sport, cultural and recreational sectors to ensure all of Saskatchewan residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life. CYR also promotes these opportunities on-line and through mass media.

### *PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE*

The majority of sport and recreation facilities across Saskatchewan are approaching the end of their life cycles. The last significant investment in sport and recreation infrastructure took place in the late 1960's in celebration of Canada's Centennial. As a result, many of Saskatchewan's sport and recreation facilities are in need of upgrades or replacement. This pattern is consistent with that seen across Canada. At the 2006 federal/provincial/territorial meeting of Ministers Responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation, provincial and territorial Ministers reaffirmed that their number one priority was infrastructure. Ministers directed their officials to develop the parameters for a long-term national approach to respond to the state of sport and recreation infrastructure.

CYR will continue to take a leadership role in the development, implementation and evaluation of the Building Communities Program (BCP) that was launched in December 2006. This three-year $100 million program was initiated to address large cultural and recreational infrastructure projects that build capacity and will serve a region well into the future. The Department estimates that renovating all existing arenas, pools and curling rinks, would exceed $750 million.

### *FIRST NATIONS AND MÉTIS SPORT, RECREATION AND CULTURE PARTICIPATION RATES*

There are disproportionately low participation rates for First Nations and Métis youth in coached sport and recreation activities. In 2005, CYR conducted a study that found First Nations and Métis youth participate in coached sport activities at a lower rate, 51.2 per cent, than the rest of the youth population, 74.9 per cent (2005 Aboriginal Participation Survey, CYR). The study also found that First Nations and Métis youth had an 89.2 per cent rate of participation in recreation activities compared to 94.8 per cent of youth in general and 19.9 per cent of First Nations and Métis youth participated in heritage language activities compared to four per cent of youth in general.

CYR is making a concerted effort to address these inequities by working with partners to ensure that programs and policies are responsive to First Nations and Métis needs.

### *SASKATCHEWAN'S VOLUNTEER SECTOR*

*The Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating,* released in 2006, revealed that Saskatchewan had the highest volunteer rate in Canada at 54 per cent. However, the way in which Canadians volunteer has changed dramatically in the last twenty years, placing great pressure on voluntary sector organizations to fulfill their mandates and plan for the future. Voluntary sector organizations report greater challenges recruiting volunteers willing to make long-term commitments, those willing to take on leadership positions, and those with appropriate skills to fundraise, maintain accounts and undertake strategic planning. Ensuring the sustainability of our vital voluntary sector organizations and renewing the volunteer base in Saskatchewan is an ongoing priority for CYR.

# Changes from 2006-07 Performance Plan

The development of CYR's strategic plan to better reflect emerging issues has resulted in additional objectives being profiled within the plan. The revised performance plan includes two new objectives:

**Goal 2, Objective 4 –** Saskatchewan people are committed to their communities and are active volunteers and participants

**Goal 3, Objective 2 –** Voluntary sector organizations (VSOs) have the capacity to make valuable contributions to local communities and the province

As well, CYR has eliminated the following objective, as the responsibility for youth employment programs now resides elsewhere in government:

**Goal 1, Objective 1 –** Youth obtain quality jobs or initiate businesses or co-operatives of their own

CYR has made revisions to clarify the intent of some other objectives, but these refinements do not change the strategic intent of the plan.

In addition, trendline information is provided for all established performance measures in the 2007-08 Performance Plan. This information has been included to provide additional context and historical information for the reader. New and revised baseline information has also been developed for a number of the performance measures.

# Goals, Objectives, Actions and Measures

This section contains the detailed 2007-08 Performance Plan. Under each goal, a number of objectives that support progress toward the broader goal statement have been established. The key actions are the means for making progress on the objectives. In addition, CYR continues to work on identifying performance measures for each objective.

A number of external factors affect CYR's key program costs and performance results. Some key cost drivers and financial assumptions that will affect the 2007-08 Plan are outlined below:

- *Film Employment Tax Credit* program costs are driven by the total value of Saskatchewan labour on eligible film projects. As expected, recent changes to the tax credit program have resulted in a moderate decrease in film activity and tax costs in 2006 while maintaining the competitiveness of Saskatchewan as a location for major film production. The growth in the industry will continue to be limited by human resource capacity.
- Many sport, cultural and recreational activities are supported through gaming profits (e.g., lotteries, casino gaming, bingos, raffles, etc.). The gaming environment in Saskatchewan is highly competitive. CYR will continue to monitor the gaming environment to ensure the long-term sustainability of the *Community Initiatives Fund* and sport, cultural and recreational programs and services supported by the lottery system.

## *GOAL 1*

*Saskatchewan is an attractive place to live and build a future*

***OBJECTIVE 1** – Saskatchewan people participate in sport, culture and recreation activities*

Sport, culture and recreation improve health, education, social and economic success for all participants. CYR recognizes it has an important stewardship role in the sport, cultural and recreational sectors and works closely with its *global partners* – Sask Sport, SaskCulture and Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA) – to provide opportunities for Saskatchewan residents to participate in these areas.

Through the enactment of *The Status of the Artist Act* in 2002, the Government of Saskatchewan further recognized that, in order to ensure the citizens of the province have access to vibrant and diverse artistic experiences, it is in the public interest that artists are able to maintain a viable socio-economic status. In July 2006, the Minister released the *Report of the Minister's Advisory Committee on Status of the Artist* (MACSA). MACSA recommended a number of actions that would improve the access of the people of Saskatchewan to arts and cultural experiences. Evidence also suggests that when the broader general public is provided with artistic experiences both in childhood and in adulthood, they become more frequent and sophisticated consumers of artistic goods and services. This increase in consumption directly affects artists'

income. Therefore, it is both in the broader public interest that people participate in the arts and that artists have viable incomes to ensure that they can continue to provide artistic experiences.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- Resources will be allocated to implement key recommendations of the Minister's Advisory Committee on Status of the Artist. These resources will be targeted to improve the income of artists by providing resources directly to artists and by improving opportunities for artists and arts organizations to leverage increased resources from other sources.
- Reach out beyond agencies, committees and boards connected to government and use the *Premier's Voluntary Sector Initiative* to advocate for youth inclusion on boards of directors as a best practice throughout the voluntary sector.

| **What are we measuring?** | **Progress to date** | |
|---|---|---|
| Percentage of children and youth (age 5 to 19) participating in sport, recreational and cultural activities | Coached sport: | 70.0% |
| | Informal sport: | 96.6% |
| | Recreation: | 93.6% |
| | Arts and cultural activities: | 44.4% |
| | Heritage languages: | 7.4% |
| | *[Source: 2005 CYR Survey]* | |

This measure tracks the percentage of children and youth who are participating in various sport, cultural and recreational activities. CYR works with its external partners to ensure that funding from the lotteries and gaming profits are used to increase the quality and accessibility of sport, cultural and recreational opportunities for children and youth in Saskatchewan. Other factors that may also influence this measure include: demographic, geographic, social and environmental conditions.

| **What are we measuring?** | **Progress to date** |
|---|---|
| Number of artists in Saskatchewan | 3,120<br>*[1991]*<br><br>2,970<br>*[2001]*<br><br>*[Source: 2004 Hill Strategy Report]* |

This measure identifies an approximate figure for the number of artists in the province, including: actors; artisans and craft-persons; conductors, composers and arrangers; dancers; musicians and singers; other performers; painters, sculptors and other visual artists; producers, directors choreographers and other related occupations and writers. While the definition of the term "artist" is extensive for this measure, the estimate may be somewhat low because it excludes amateur artists and may exclude those artists who are listed under a different occupation because they work more hours in a non-artist position.

Factors that influence this measure include the ability of CYR to contribute to the development of a vibrant arts community through the development of policies and programs governing the distribution of grants which fund cultural organizations. As such, the Department has a moderate level of influence on this measure.

CYR is also developing additional measures to monitor Saskatchewan residents' volunteer participation in sport, cultural and recreational activities. In addition, measures are being developed to assess and monitor the engagement of Aboriginal youth and adults in leadership positions.

*OBJECTIVE 2 – Sport, culture and recreation contribute to the growth of the Saskatchewan economy*

Saskatchewan has vibrant sport, cultural and recreational sectors. These sectors significantly affect the financial health of the province through employment and tourism. Some areas, such as film, drive growth and innovation in new economic sectors especially attractive to young people. Large sport and cultural events impact the economy through tourism and capital improvements. Finally, the presence of quality sport, cultural and recreational activities, facilities and services are important determinants of where individuals choose to live and where businesses choose to locate.

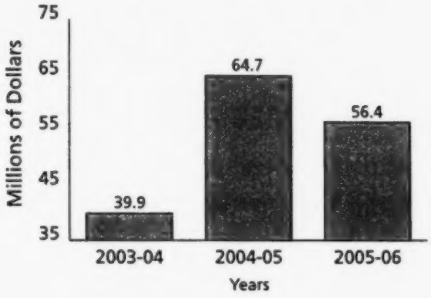
**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- Finalize and release a report of the review of the music industry, currently underway under the leadership of Legislative Secretary Joanne Crofford. This report will incorporate findings from the consultation report released in January 2007 and two on-line surveys conducted by CYR. The final Music Industry Review report and recommendations will be provided to the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation by June of 2007.
- Contribute to the successful implementation of four major music events to be held in the province in 2007: the *Juno Awards* (Saskatoon); the *Canadian Country Music Awards* (Regina); the *Western Canadian Music Awards* (Moose Jaw); and *Waniskâ*, a showcase of Aboriginal arts and music in Prince Albert.

**What are we measuring?**

Film production volumes

**Progress to date**




*[Source: Sask Film]*

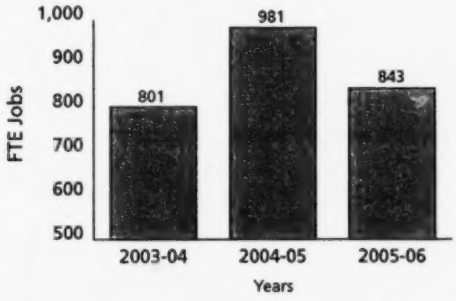
This measure tracks the total production budgets of films shot in Saskatchewan through information obtained from the *Film Employment Tax Credit* (FETC) program. While this measure encompasses the majority of the film productions in Saskatchewan, it does not take into account the small number of Saskatchewan film productions that do not participate in the FETC program.

CYR has a moderate level of influence on the production volumes by working with SaskFilm to regulate the FETC and developing other policies and programs that focus on increasing resources to attract film production.

**What are we measuring?**

Estimated film industry employment (full-time equivalent jobs)

**Progress to date**




*[Source: SaskFilm and CYR]*

Using well-established Statistics Canada multipliers and an estimated average annual salary of $35,000, the Department developed a formula to estimate the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs that exist in the film industry. This estimate does not represent the actual number of people working in the industry. Because of the itinerant nature of film industry employment, those numbers are estimated to be three to four times higher than the estimate of full-time equivalent jobs. CYR is developing additional measures to more comprehensively assess the contribution of sport, culture and recreation to Saskatchewan's economy.

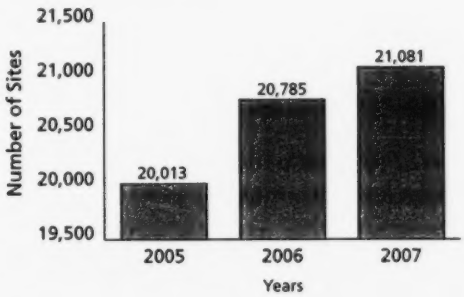
Since this measure is based on film production in Saskatchewan, CYR's level of influence and the factors that impact this measure are similar to the previous measure.

*OBJECTIVE 3 – Heritage resources are identified, interpreted, protected and managed for the benefit of the people of Saskatchewan*

Public awareness of and interest in managing and supporting heritage resource conservation is on the rise. CYR continues to identify appropriate ways for government to determine and support the heritage resources Saskatchewan people value.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- Conduct, through the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, original research in palaeontology and archaeology and communicate the results of this research through all appropriate media, especially in the development of new exhibits.
- Begin work with Saskatchewan's First Nations and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and other jurisdictions to repatriate sacred and ceremonial artefacts.

| **What are we measuring?** | **Progress to date** |
|---|---|
| Number of archaeological sites |  |
| Number of municipal designated heritage properties | 685 *[2004-05]*<br>721 *[2005-06]* |
| Number of provincial designated heritage properties | 40 *[2004-05]*<br>44 *[2005-06]* |

*[Source: CYR]*

Heritage properties added to the provincial inventory and/or formally designated as provincial heritage sites include archaeological and palaeontological sites, as well as structures and buildings designated as municipal and provincial properties. Heritage property includes any property that is of public interest for its historical, architectural, archaeological, palaeontological, or other scientific or cultural value. These measures track heritage resource identification, preservation and protection in a quantitative manner only. CYR is working to develop additional measures that will provide some indication of the type of heritage resources CYR tracks.

CYR has a strong influence over the designation of archeological sites due to its regulatory and legislative role in the permit process. As a result, this measure is influenced by the number of requests that are largely dependent on the amount of natural resource exploration in the province. CYR has a moderate influence on provincially designated properties depending on the number of applications submitted by the public. CYR provides advice and support to individual property owners and municipalities regarding municipal designated properties. As a result, its influence on this measure is more limited.

## *GOAL 2*

*Saskatchewan people have the habits and skills needed for life success*

***OBJECTIVE 1** – Youth have early leadership and work experience opportunities*

The development of engaged, productive citizens requires input from a variety of influences over an individual's lifetime – private, public and voluntary. Actions to achieve this objective ensure that youth have opportunities to include themselves in their community, to develop career skills, and to succeed.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- Facilitate the inclusion of youth in new leadership roles in Saskatchewan through the *Youth Leadership Opportunities* database and the *Provincial Youth Advisory Committee* alumni.
- Provide funding to at least nine youth-led projects throughout the province through *The Saskatchewan Youth Project Awards.*

**What are we measuring?**

Percentage of Saskatchewan Youth Project Awards (SYPA) youth participants that agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: "Our SPYA funded project created new opportunities for youth to work with organizations in our community"

**Progress to date**

The program is currently conducting an evaluation of its 2006-07 outcomes

CYR is involved in a number of small-scale youth engagement initiatives that create knowledge and develop best practices and examples of how youth can be included in leadership, employment and decision-making. While significant influence on these measures can be attributed to external agencies, demographics, geographic, social, economic and environmental conditions, the Department's relationship with youth, external partners and other government departments does develop improved inclusion practices across the province.

*OBJECTIVE 2 – First Nations and Métis children and youth participate in sport, cultural and recreational activities*

*The Provincial Aboriginal Justice Reform Commission* and public consultations on *Government's Strategy for Métis and off-Reserve First Nations People* identified a growing sense of urgency for the health and well-being of First Nations and Métis youth. Cultural, recreational and sport programs reduce the risk that children and youth will engage in destructive behaviour and improve the likelihood of physical and emotional health, positive family interactions, academic performance, lifestyle choices and successful job attachment. Both the Commission and First Nations and Métis leaders have identified sport, cultural and recreational programming as a priority.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- The new three-year lottery agreement containing initiatives to be undertaken in collaboration with Sask Sport, SaskCulture and Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association will monitor the impact of their programs to increase participation of First Nations and Métis people.
- Collaborate with the *Community Initiatives Fund* Trustees and delivery partners to increase access and inclusion of First Nations and Métis people in the delivery of *Community Initiatives Fund* programs, including sport, culture and recreation activities.

| **What are we measuring?** | **Progress to date** | |
|---|---|---|
| Percentage of Aboriginal children and youth participating in sport, recreational and cultural activities | Coached sport: | 51.2% |
| | Informal sport: | 93.8% |
| | Recreation: | 89.2% |
| | Arts activity: | 41.8% |
| | Heritage languages: | 19.9% |

*(Source: 2005 CYR Survey)*

CYR is working with its stakeholders to develop indicators and measurement systems to measure participation of First Nations and Métis people in sport, cultural and recreational activities provided through its three global partners (SaskCulture, Sask Sport and Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association). Examples of measures that are being developed include: Aboriginal athletes involved with high performance games; qualified Aboriginal coaches and officials; and Aboriginal people on provincial and regional recreation boards and committees.

*OBJECTIVE 3 – Saskatchewan people become more physically active*

The proportion of physically active people in Saskatchewan has increased from 45.6 per cent in 2000 to 50.0 per cent in 2003. Nevertheless, inactivity remains a serious concern. For example, in 2003, 59.8 per cent of Saskatchewan adults (over 18 years) were either overweight or obese compared to about 53.3 per cent of Canadians.

CYR has a long history of working with Sask Sport and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association to provide Saskatchewan residents with opportunities to engage in physical activity. The Department has also recognized that physical inactivity continues to be a serious health issue and is committed to increasing the levels of physical activity of all residents. Through funding from the *Community Initiatives Fund,* Saskatchewan *in motion* was developed and launched in spring 2003 as a province-wide initiative to help Saskatchewan reach this goal.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- Continue to advance initiatives, in collaboration with Saskatchewan *in motion,* designed to increase physical activity rates in the province by building partnerships, raising awareness, mobilizing communities, monitoring impact and celebrating success.

| **What are we measuring?** | **Progress to date** |
|---|---|
| Percentage of Saskatchewan residents who are physically active | 45.6%<br>(Active: 23.0%; moderately active: 22.6%)<br>*[2000]*<br><br>50.0%<br>(Active: 25.1%; moderately active: 23.9%)<br>*[2003]*<br><br>*[Source: Canadian Community Health Survey, Statistics Canada]* |

This measure is based on the *Physical Activity Index* (PAI) from the *Canadian Community Health Survey* and is a direct reflection of whether people are taking action to become physically active. The PAI categorizes respondents as being *active, moderately active* or *inactive.*

While CYR has a moderate level of influence through its policies and programs implemented through a variety of external partners, physical activity is also influenced by demographic, environmental and behavioural factors, as well as the availability of quality facilities.

| What are we measuring? | Progress to date |
|---|---|
| Percentage of Saskatchewan youth (age 12 to 19) who are physically active | 72.5%<br>(Active: 50.8 %; moderately active: 21.7%)<br>*[2000]*<br><br>72.2%<br>(Active: 49.9%; moderately active: 22.3%)<br>*[2003]*<br><br>*[Source: Canadian Community Health Survey, Statistics Canada]* |

This measure is the same as the previous measure with the exception that it only includes youth respondents (age 12 to 19 years). CYR is currently working with Sask Sport and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association to develop additional measures of participation for younger age groups.

*OBJECTIVE 4 – Saskatchewan people are committed to their communities and are active volunteers and participants*

Volunteers are integral to the delivery of a multitude of programs and services. At the same time, volunteering provides individuals with the opportunity to come together to advance worthwhile causes and to solve community problems while developing new skills, building self-esteem, and feeling valued. It is therefore important to ensure that citizens continue to be engaged in volunteerism in Saskatchewan.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- CYR will research and develop best practices for engaging and retaining volunteers and board members. Special attention will be paid to developing best practices for the engagement of youth and First Nations and Métis volunteers.

| What are we measuring? | Progress to date |
|---|---|
| Percentage of Saskatchewan residents who volunteer | 54%<br>*[2004]*<br><br>*[Source: 2004 Canadian Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, Statistics Canada]* |

This measure is also referred to as the *volunteer rate* and is the percentage of a given population that performed a service without pay, on behalf of a charity or other non-profit organization, at least once in the 12-month reference period preceding the survey.

Given that the probability of volunteering in adulthood is higher among those who in their youth participated in an organized team sport; belonging to a youth group; or performed some volunteer work, the Department has a moderate level of control in this area through the lottery-funded sport, culture and recreation system and youth engagement programming.

## GOAL 3

*Programs and infrastructure are sustainable, accountable and responsive to public needs*

***OBJECTIVE 1** – Sport, cultural and recreational physical infrastructure is sustainable*

Almost half of Saskatchewan's sport and recreational facilities were constructed in tribute to Canada's Centennial in 1967 and are now at or nearing the end of their useful life. Provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for sport, physical activity, and recreation have identified sport and recreational infrastructure as their number one priority recognizing that infrastructure needs are unique to each jurisdiction.

CYR will continue to take a leadership role in the development, implementation and evaluation of the Building Communities Program (BCP) that was launched in December 2006. This three-year $100 million program was initiated to address large cultural and recreational infrastructure projects that build capacity and will serve a region well into the future. The Department estimates that if Saskatchewan were to renovate all existing arenas, pools and curling rinks, the cost would be more than $750 million.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- CYR will continue to take a leadership role in the development, implementation and evaluation of the Building Communities Program (BCP) that was launched in December 2006. This three-year $100 million program was designed to assist communities in meeting cultural and recreational infrastructure needs.

| What are we measuring? | Progress to date |
|---|---|
| Percentage of Saskatchewan population served by the Building Communities Program | 6.9% *[2006-07]* |

This measure is a ratio based on the population of the communities that received funding from the Building Communities Program in 2006.

*OBJECTIVE 2 – Voluntary sector organizations have the capacity to make valuable contributions to local communities and the Province*

Voluntary organizations are vital contributors to Saskatchewan's high quality of life. The 2003 *National Survey of Non-profit and Voluntary Organizations* identified a number of key challenges facing the voluntary sector. These issues are placing great pressure on organizations to meet their mandates and to continue to deliver programming and services. Through the *Premier's Voluntary Sector Initiative*, CYR will continue to work with the sector to understand the underlying causes of these trends and develop solutions.

The *Community Initiatives Fund* supports community organizations to respond to priorities identified at the local level. Ensuring there is access to the fund by smaller communities provides a potential revenue source for local volunteer initiatives.

**Key Actions for 2007-08**

- Collaborate with the *Community Initiatives Fund* Board of Trustees and delivery partners to increase access and inclusion of smaller communities in the delivery of *Community Initiatives Fund* programs.

**What are we measuring?**

Percentage of non-profit and voluntary organizations identifying challenges in five key areas

**Progress to date**

| | |
|---|---|
| Difficulty recruiting the type of volunteers the organization needs: | 61% |
| Difficulty planning for the future: | 62% |
| Difficulty participating in development of public policy: | 39% |
| Difficulty obtaining the type of paid staff the organization needs: | 30% |
| Unwillingness of funders to fund core operations (i.e., long-term programs, administrative expenses): | 58% |

*[Source: 2003 National Survey of Non-profit and Voluntary Organizations, Canadian Centre for Philanthropy]*

This measure reports on five of the 24 potential challenges from the *2003 National Survey of Non-profit and Voluntary Organizations* based on their relevance to its policy and program initiatives to enhance the capacity of non-profit and voluntary organizations in Saskatchewan.

CYR has a moderate level of influence over these measures. These measures are also influenced by other Saskatchewan Government agencies and external stakeholders engaged in the *Premier's Volunteer Sector Initiative.*

# For More Information

Saskatchewan Culture, Youth and Recreation depends on effective communication with its key partners in the community and within the Government to achieve its mandate. This Plan offers an overview of where we are concentrating our resources, and why. You may have questions related to the information in this report, or about other programs, initiatives or issues within the jurisdiction of the Department.

For general Department information, please call (306) 787-5729, e-mail us at info@cyr.gov.sk.ca, or visit our website at www.cyr.gov.sk.ca. The Department will continue to contribute to promoting the quality of life in Saskatchewan and career opportunities at the website www.saskatchewan.ca. There is also a youth portal website at www.saskyouth.net.

For information specific to Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) programming, please call (306) 787-2815 or 787-2816, e-mail the RSM at rsminfo@royalsaskmuseum.ca, or visit the museum's website at www.royalsaskmuseum.ca.

If you have questions or would like to give us feedback on our work, please get in touch with us either through the website or by calling (306) 787-5729.